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Control: 17321

Ras/d: October 23, 1962

3:47 p.m.

FROM: The Hague

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 281, October 23, 5 p.m.

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PRIORITY

CUBA

1. Since key instruction Circular not received here until 11 PM October 22, Embassy officers acted on basis other messages (which received here 10:15 PM) and conveyed contents President's speech to highest available Foreign Office official, Secretary General Van Tuyll, at about 11 PM. Van Tuyll said

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- 2. I called on Prime Minister De Quay 11 AM October 23. He told me he had been informed last night by Van Tuyll essential points President's speech. I told him our copy of speech varied in slight detail from speech delivered by President and promised deliver final text as soon as possible. I also drew his attention to President's remarks at September 13 press conference.
- 3. I informed Prime Minister I had been requested by my government to assure him information we had regarding missiles and missile bases in Cuba was factual and that detailed information regarding this was being given to Ambassador Van Roijen. I also told him we would keep him fully informed of all developments, as well as their Ambassador in Washington.
- 4. Prime Minister stated

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-2- 281, October 23, 5 p.m. from The Hague

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seemed pleased when I pointed to President's statement that any threat anywhere in the world and in Berlin in particular would be met with determination.

5. Prime Minister said he would reserve any comments from his government to Parliament until there were further developments. He stated it would be very helpful if they were kept fully informed of developments, since it would greatly assist them in government's relations with Parliament. As I was leaving, he again stated that, although this presented grave situation, he

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Note: Advance copy to Mr. Bieling (EUR) 10/23/62 CWD-H